

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A control method for an electronically controlled thermostat comprising:

an actuator that can be used for cooling-water control of an internal combustion engine and that is capable of optionally varying the valve-opening ratio; and

an engine control unit that computes a target temperature by means of various engine parameters and distributes the power distribution amount required to operate the actuator so that the cooling water temperature reaches the target temperature,

wherein the power distribution amount distributed to the actuator is determined by monitoring only the actual water temperature of the cooling water.

2. The control method for an electronically controlled thermostat according to claim 1, wherein the difference in the cooling-water temperature variation per unit time is read and the cooling-water temperature variation is predicted in accordance with this difference.

3. The control method for an electronically controlled thermostat according to claim 1 or claim 2,

wherein a cooling fan disposed opposite a radiator for radiating the heat of the cooling water is provided; and

the rotational speed of the radiator fan is controlled so that the difference between the actual water temperature of

the cooling water and the water temperature when the valve is fully open by the distribution of power to the actuator or the water temperature when the valve is fully open in a state where the power distribution to the actuator is cut is zero.

4. The control method for an electronically controlled thermostat according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the actuator is a heater element installed in a temperature sensor.

5. The control method for an electronically controlled thermostat according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the actuator is an electric motor that drives the valve to the open/closed state.